

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the Application:

**Listing of Claims:**

- 1           1.       (Currently Amended) A retention system for a hand tool combination  
2       having an axe having a non-metallic axe handle and a secondary tool having a non-  
3       metallic tool handle, comprising:  
4                   a first magnet having a first polarity coupled to the non-metallic axe  
5       handle;  
6                   a second magnet having a second polarity coupled to the non-metallic  
7       tool handle of the secondary tool;  
8                   wherein the first polarity and the second polarity are configured for  
9       attraction by a magnetic force;  
10                  so that the secondary tool is retained in connection with the axe in a  
11       position with an end of the tool handle substantially flush with an end of the axe  
12       handle.  
  
1           2.       (Previously Presented) The retention system of Claim 1 wherein the  
2       first magnet is fixed to the axe.  
  
1           3.       (Previously Presented) The retention system of Claim 2 wherein the  
2       second magnet is fixed to the secondary tool.  
  
1           4.       (Previously Presented) The retention system of Claim 3 wherein the  
2       first magnet has one of a positive polarity and a negative polarity and the second  
3       magnet has the other of the positive polarity and the negative polarity.  
  
1           5.       (Previously Presented) The retention system of Claim 1 wherein the  
2       first magnet is substantially aligned with the second magnet when the secondary tool  
3       is retained in a stowed position within a receptacle of the axe.

1           6.       (Previously Presented) The retention system of Claim 1 wherein at  
2       least one of the first magnet and the second magnet comprises a rare earth magnet.

1           7.       (Previously Presented) The retention system of Claim 1 wherein the  
2       secondary tool is one of a knife and a saw.

1           8.       (Withdrawn) The retention system of Claim 1 wherein the first magnet  
2       is at least partially offset from the second magnet.

1           9.       (Withdrawn) The retention system of Claim 1 wherein the offset is  
2       sufficient to maintain a magnetic attraction to draw the secondary tool toward a  
3       stowed position in connection with the primary tool.

1           10.      (Currently Amended) A combination hand tool having an axe  
2       configured for storage of a secondary hand tool therein, the combination hand tool  
3       comprising:  
4                   a receptacle formed within an elongated non-metallic handle of the  
5       axe;  
6                   a first magnet having a first polarity coupled to the non-metallic handle  
7       of the axe;  
8                   a second magnet having a second polarity opposite the first polarity  
9       and coupled to a non-metallic handle of the secondary hand tool and configured to  
10      operably engage the first magnet;  
11                  the secondary hand tool being retainable within the receptacle with an  
12      end of the non-metallic handle of the axe substantially even with an end of the non-  
13      metallic handle of the secondary tool by a magnetic force and selected from the group  
14      consisting of a camping gear item, a survival gear item, a hiking gear item, and a  
15      fishing gear item.

1           11.      Cancelled.

1           12.     (Withdrawn) The combination hand tool of Claim 10 wherein the first  
2     magnetic member is coupled to an actuatable member configured to alternate a  
3     polarity of the first magnetic member for interfacing with the second magnetic  
4     member.

1           13.     (Withdrawn) The combination hand tool of Claim 12 wherein the  
2     actuatable member is a thumbwheel.

1           14.     (Withdrawn) The combination hand tool of Claim 10 wherein the first  
2     magnetic member and the second magnetic member are operable to at least partially  
3     withdraw the second hand tool from the receptacle.

1           15.     (Original) The combination hand tool of Claim 10 wherein the  
2     magnetic force is a minimum of approximately 4000 gauss.

1           16.     (Previously Presented) The combination hand tool of Claim 10  
2     wherein the first magnet is fixed to the axe and the second magnet is fixed to the  
3     secondary hand tool.

1           17.     (Previously Presented) The combination hand tool of Claim 10  
2     wherein the first magnet and the second magnet are configured in substantial  
3     alignment when the secondary hand tool is retained within the axe.

1           18.     (Withdrawn) The combination hand tool of Claim 10 wherein the first  
2     magnet and the second magnet are configured in at least a partially offset relationship  
3     when the secondary hand tool is retained within the primary hand tool.

1           19.     (Withdrawn) The combination hand tool of Claim 12 wherein the  
2     actuatable member is configured for rotational movement.

1           20.     (Currently Amended) A system for storing an object in connection  
2     with a camp axe, comprising:

3                 a first retainer having a first magnet with a first polarity coupled to the  
4     object;

5                 a second retainer having a second magnet with a second polarity  
6     coupled to the camp axe, the second magnet configured to attract the first magnet by a  
7     magnetic attraction;

8                 so that the first retainer and the second retainer are operable to retain  
9     the object in connection with the camp axe in a position with an end of the object  
10    substantially coplanar with an end of the camp axe until the object is removed by  
11    overcoming the magnetic attraction;

12                wherein the object is selected from the group consisting of a knife, a  
13    saw, a cooking utensil, a compartment, a camping gear item, a hunting gear item, a  
14    fishing gear item and a survival gear item.

1           21.     (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 20 wherein the object is  
2     retainable at least partially within the camp axe.

1           22.     (Withdrawn) The system of Claim 20 wherein the first retainer is  
2     configured to be actuatable between a first position for retention of the second object  
3     and a second position for extraction of the second object.

1           23.     (Withdrawn) The system of Claim 22 wherein the first magnetic  
2     member and the second magnetic member are attracted in the first position.

1           24.     (Withdrawn) The system of Claim 23 wherein the first magnetic  
2     member and the second magnetic member are repelled in the second position.

1           25.     (Withdrawn) The system of Claim 20 wherein the first magnetic  
2     member is fixed to the first object and the second magnetic member is fixed to the  
3     second object so that the first magnetic member and the second magnetic member are  
4     arranged in a relationship that is at least partially offset with respect to each other.

1           26.   (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 20 wherein the camp axe  
2   comprises an elongated handle providing a receptacle and the object is configured for  
3   retention at least partially within the receptacle.

1           27.   (Cancelled).

1           28.   (Currently Amended) In an apparatus comprising a first cutting tool  
2   having a receptacle and a second cutting tool configured for storage within the  
3   receptacle, the improvement comprising a retention system having a first magnet with  
4   a first polarity coupled to an interior portion of a non-metallic handle of the first  
5   cutting tool and a second magnet with a second polarity coupled to an exterior portion  
6   of a non-metallic handle of the second cutting tool, where the first polarity and the  
7   second polarity are configured for magnetic attraction, so that the second cutting tool  
8   is retained within the receptacle in a position where the ends of the first cutting tool  
9   and the second cutting tool are substantially even until removed by a user.

1           29.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 28 wherein the first  
2   cutting tool comprises an axe and the second cutting tool comprises a knife.

1           30.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 28 wherein the first  
2   polarity is one of a positive polarity and a negative polarity.

1           31.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of Claim 30 wherein the first retainer is  
2   configured to alternate the polarity of the first magnetic member relative to the second  
3   retainer.

1           32.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of Claim 31 wherein the first magnetic  
2   member is configured for rotation.

1           33.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 28 wherein the  
2   receptacle is provided in a handle of the first cutting tool.

- 1           34.    (Withdrawn) The apparatus of Claim 28 wherein the first retainer is  
2   actuatable between a first position for retention of the second hand tool within the  
3   receptacle and a second position for withdrawal of the second hand tool from the  
4   receptacle.